



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences  
305 South Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

CHARLES D. BAKER  
Governor

KARYN E. POLITO  
Lieutenant Governor

Division of Epidemiology and Immunization

Tel: (617) 983-6800

Fax: (617) 983-6840

[www.mass.gov/dph/epi](http://www.mass.gov/dph/epi)

[www.mass.gov/dph/imm](http://www.mass.gov/dph/imm)

MARYLOU SUDDERS  
Secretary

MONICA BHAREL, MD, MPH  
Commissioner

Tel: 617-624-6000  
[www.mass.gov/dph](http://www.mass.gov/dph)

**To:** Camp Directors

**From:** Susan Lett, MD, MPH, Medical Director, Immunization Program  
Pejman Talebian, MA, MPH, Director, Immunization Program

**Date:** March 2016

**Subject:** Recommended Immunizations for Children Attending Camp

Vaccination is critically important to control the spread of vaccine-preventable disease. In 2015, 189 people from 24 states and the District of Columbia were reported to have measles. In 2014, the United States experienced a record number of measles cases, with 667 cases from 27 states reported to CDC's National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD); this is the greatest number of cases since measles elimination was documented in the U.S. in 2000. The majority of people who got measles were unvaccinated.

In 2015, a single visiting exchange student developed measles while visiting Massachusetts and resulted in hundreds of exposures, and measures to control measles such as isolation of the ill individual and quarantine of those exposed who were unable to get vaccinated within 72 hours after exposure. This resulted in many missed days of work, school, daycare, and other activities such as graduations. In 2016, an outbreak of mumps among college students in Massachusetts has resulted in isolation of ill students and quarantine of those students who did not have evidence of immunity to mumps. Large institutions have had to consider cancelling events to keep mumps from spreading. This outbreak has remained moderate in size because of very high vaccination rates among students in Massachusetts.

Immunization requirements for entry to school in Massachusetts have been updated since 105 CMR 430.000, Minimum Standards for Recreational Camps for Children, the regulation outlining immunizations required for camp, was last revised. Therefore, camp immunization requirements are not consistent with the latest required immunizations for

school entry. We encourage you to use the School Immunization Requirements table as a reference. You can find this table at [www.mass.gov/dph/imm](http://www.mass.gov/dph/imm). Click on "School Immunizations," choose "Immunization Requirements for School Entry."

### Required Vaccines:

According to 105 CMR 430.152 ([www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/regs/105cmr430.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/regs/105cmr430.pdf))

- Campers and staff younger than 18 years of age are **required** to have **written** documentation of:
  - At least one MMR. A second dose administered at least one month after the first dose, is required for all campers and staff entering K - 12 or college in the school year immediately following the camp session or, in the case of ungraded classrooms, or not attending school, the requirement for 2 doses applies to everyone 5 years of age and older.
  - At least 3 doses polio vaccine
  - At least 4 doses of DTaP
  - One dose of Td (Tdap preferred) for campers and staff entering grades 7 through college. Everyone else is required to have a dose of Td (Tdap preferred) if it has been more than 10 years since the previous dose of Td.
  - 3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine, or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Campers and staff 18 years of age and older are required to have documentation of:
  - Unless born before 1957, 2 doses of measles-containing vaccine and 1 dose each of mumps and rubella vaccines, or born before 1957, or laboratory evidence of immunity to measles, mumps and rubella.
  - At least 3 doses of DTaP/DTP/DT/Td. A booster dose of Td (Tdap preferred) is required if more than 10 years have elapsed since the last dose of DTaP/DTP/DT/Td.

### Recommended Vaccines:

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) Immunization Program recommends the following vaccines in addition to the required list to better prevent an outbreak of vaccine preventable diseases at camp:

- Campers younger than 12 years of age:
  - At least 1 dose of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine or healthcare provider certified history of chickenpox disease.<sup>§</sup>
- Campers and staff 12 through 17 years of age:
  - 1 booster dose of Tdap\*
  - At least 1 dose of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine or healthcare provider certified history of chickenpox disease.<sup>§</sup>

- Campers and staff 18 years of age and older:
  - 1 dose of MMR for non-U.S.-born adults born before 1957 and 2 doses of MMR for everyone born in or after 1957, or laboratory evidence of immunity to measles, mumps and rubella
  - 1 booster dose of Tdap\*
  - At least 1 dose of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine or health care provider certified history of chickenpox disease, or born in the U.S. before 1980<sup>§</sup>
  - Hepatitis B vaccine for staff whose responsibilities include first aid.

The recommendations for campers and staff 18 years of age and older also apply to any camp volunteers 18 years of age and older.

\* Beginning in the fall of 2016, a booster dose of Tdap is required for school entry for grade 7 – grade 12 and all college students.

§ Beginning in the fall of 2016, 2 doses of chickenpox vaccine are required for school entry for kindergarten – grade 5, grade 7 – grade 12 and all college students. This 2-dose requirement will be phased in for 6<sup>th</sup> graders. For the fall of 2017, 2 doses of chickenpox vaccine will be required for all students.

If you have any questions about vaccines, immunization recommendations, or suspect or confirmed cases of disease, please contact the MDPH Immunization Program at 888-658-2850 or 617-983-6800.